

FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
for
September 27, 2011

1. **Convene Meeting** – Mrs. Swanson, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order on September 27th, 2011 at 7:00pm at the Captain Isaac Paine School Library.
 - a. Roll Call – All members were present: Kathleen Swanson, Chair, Shelley Pezza, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:05 pm), member, Patricia Fountain, Superintendent/Principal, Dr. Davida Irving, Legal Counsel, Greg Piccirilli, and FSC secretary, Helena McCullough.
 - b. Pledge of Allegiance – was recited.
2. On a motion by Mrs. Fountain seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC **voted to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5(a) (1) Personnel (2) Collective Bargaining and Litigation.** Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.
3. **Reconvene Open Session** – Mrs. Swanson relayed that personnel, collective bargaining and litigation were discussed. No votes were taken.
On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to seal the minutes from Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
Ms. Pezza made a motion to seal the Executive Session Minutes from August 23, 2011 with Mrs. Fountain seconding. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
4. **Public Comment** – None.
5. **Building Use Requests** – On a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza the FSC accepted the Building Use Requests as presented by the Superintendent for the following:
 - Girl Scout Daisy Troop dated request 9/23/2011
 - Cafeteria and/or room 4 SMT Youth Group dated request 9/12/2011
 - Girl Scout Troop 270 dated request 9/19/2011
 - Cub Scout dated request 9/19/2011
 - Cub Scout Pack 101 dated request 9/20/2011No discussion. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Ms. Pezza seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Building Use Request of the Swamp Meadow Theatre performance and rehearsal for the dates of 9/27/2011 to 11/22/2011. Discussion followed. SMT was approved for every Tuesday and Thursday to use the cafeteria for rehearsals and understand that they are responsible to pay the custodians for the extra hours to cover performances. The FSC also discussed and approved maintaining the previous agreement of 20% of the door proceeds being paid to the Foster School Department. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

6. **Approval of Minutes** – On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Minutes of August 23, 2011 as amended. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0.

On a motion by Mrs. Swanson and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the Minutes of August 9, 2011 Open Session were approved. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0. Mrs. Fountain voted no because of the Warrant vote from the previous meeting.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC approved the Executive Session Minutes ‘Sealed’ of August 23, 2011. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

7. **Approval of Warrants** – There were no Warrants to approve.

8. Old Business (for discussion/action)

a. Budget 2011-2012

- 1) *Potential Arbitration Costs* – Discussion followed and no votes were taken.

- b. FSD Employment Policy – 1st Reading; on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC accepted the 1st reading of the Foster School Department Employment Policy. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

Vote = 3-0-0.

- c. Legal Services – Out to Bid; on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Ms. Pezza, the FSC voted to go out to bid for Legal Services. Discussion followed.

Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – no

Mrs. Fountain – yes

- d. BRC – Policy Draft – on a motion by Mrs. Fountain and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, The FSC voted to table this item upon the Superintendent’s request. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

- e. Budget Sub-Committee – Dr. Irving relayed that a meeting was scheduled for October. No votes were taken.

f. Technology – On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC authorized Dr. Irving to draft a contract for the Technology Coordinator position. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 2-1-0.

Vote as follows:

Mrs. Swanson – yes

Ms. Pezza – yes

Mrs. Fountain – no

9. New Business (for discussion/action)

- a. After/Before School Programs – Professional Development; Dr. Irving explained that PTG will run the program and tuition will be charged to cover the costs and scholarships. Discussion followed. No votes were taken.
- b. Use of Electronics on the School Bus; on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Swanson, the FSC accepted the addendum to the student handbook, page (4), Money and Valuables; headphones, and MP3 players may be used on the bus and kept in the student's book bag during the school day. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- c. Foster Parent Involvement Policy; on a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC accepted the Foster Parent Involvement Policy as presented. Discussion followed. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

10. Communication/Reports

- a. Correspondence; Dr. Irving stated that a letter was received from the ESP Union / Foster NEARI in response to the letter from the FSC. Dr. Irving also included congratulatory letters written to Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Jenkins and Mrs. DePetrillo for their professional development commitment.
- b. Superintendent's Report
 - 1) Personnel – Resignations, Appointments, Re-calls

Dr. Irving welcomed everyone to the new library and that all students and staff appreciate being back home. There has been an increase in new students for the 2011-2012 school year. Nine (9) new students in grade one (1) and five (5) new students in grade two (2). Dr. Irving will be holding an 'Evening with the Superintendent' at 7:00 pm every other month on the following dates: 10/18/2011, 12/13/2011, 2/7/2012, 4/10/2012, & 6/5/2012. The school had a very successful Open House and a large number of parents attended. On October 3rd an "Anti-Bullying" program will be held and on October 22, 2011 the PTG is holding a "Science Fair" which will also be attended by PHS students.
- c. Business Manager's Report – On a motion by Ms. Pezza and seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to table this item. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.
- d. Future Agenda Items –
Mrs. Fountain – report on the surplus fund balance
Mrs. Fountain – Dr. Bowen to report and / or present on RTI

Ms. Swanson – 5yr. report on educational materials
Ms. Pezza – School Calendar – 3 lost days

11. **Adjournment;** on a motion by Ms. Pezza seconded by Mrs. Fountain, the FSC voted to adjourn at 9:08 pm. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee